

# Department of Natural Resources Impact in LaCrosse County

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources aims to excel at working and partnering with the public to protect and manage the state's natural resources while supporting the economy and the well-being of our citizenry.



## Did you know?

In 2011, Wisconsin had

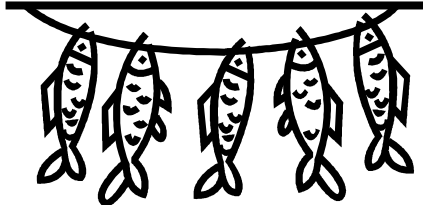
**763,384**



**RESIDENT HUNTERS**

In 2011, fishing in Wisconsin had an economic impact of over

**\$1.4 billion**



In LaCrosse County, **66,485** licenses were sold in 2013-14.

## Contact Information

**Secretary's Director:** Dan Baumann  
(715) 839-3722  
[dan.baumann@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:dan.baumann@Wisconsin.gov)

**General Information:** 1-888-936-7463  
**Website:** [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov)



[Facebook.com/widnr/](https://www.facebook.com/widnr/)

## Investments in Recreation

**9,097 extended growth walleye** were stocked in **Neshonoc Lake** under the **Wisconsin Walleye Initiative** in the fall of 2014. The initiative aims to strengthen Wisconsin walleye waters.

DNR offers a variety of safety classes around the state annually. In 2013, a total of **613 citizens** became **hunter, ATV, boating and snowmobile** certified in LaCrosse County.

DNR granted a total of **\$7,912** to the LaCrosse County Sheriff Department for boat patrol activities.

In fiscal year 2014, **Great River** and **LaCrosse River state trails** had close to **108,960 visitors** making an **estimated local impact of \$9,654,200**.

## Community Partnerships

LaCrosse County has **131 public water systems** that the DNR oversees to ensure they deliver safe water. Wisconsin has more public water systems than any other state in the nation.

DNR has strong relationships with La Crosse County groups through its **Citizen-Based Monitoring Program**, an initiative that connects citizens and scientists to work together to monitor and evaluate Wisconsin's natural resources. Recent partnerships in La Crosse County include support to the **Valley Stewardship Network** to provide scholarships to Wisconsin Master Naturalist participants in the Kickapoo River watershed and the **Southwest Badger Resource Conservation and Development** to engage citizens in the identification, location and cataloging of invasive plant species.

## Snapshot of grants in LaCrosse County

A total of **\$710,720** was awarded in LaCrosse County for **water quality, outdoor recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, public health and safety and forestry activities**. A snapshot of projects include: rehabilitation to Veteran's Memorial Park Pond, snowmobile maintenance and forest planning and planting.

**\*\*Numbers reflect the July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 time period.**

## Forestry Activities

Since June 2010, **DNR has provided over \$40,280 to private forest owners in the county to assist them in protecting and enhancing their forested lands, prairies and waters** through management plan development, tree planting and other practices that improve forest health and soil and water protection.

LaCrosse County has **1,835 acres of private land open for public access** as a result of the tax law programs. The Tax Law Programs encourage proper management of timber, wildlife, water quality and the environment through written management plans for a landowner's property.

Since 2011, **LaCrosse County has received \$26,750 in Urban Forestry Grants** to support new, innovative projects that will develop sustainable urban and community forestry programs.

**DNR granted \$26,204 to local Fire Departments** in LaCrosse County to purchase equipment and supplies that improve their capability and safety in handling wild land fires.

**Five communities in LaCrosse County have received technical assistance from the DNR between 2011 and 2014**, which helped them to develop or improve their urban forest management programs.

Since 2005, **over 5,902 cord equivalents of timber products have been harvested from state-owned land** in LaCrosse County. The harvests provided more than **\$141,927 in revenue** to the state and contributed employment opportunities and raw materials to the local economy.

## Environmental Cleanup Efforts

DNR approved **cleanups at 586 contaminated properties** resulting in **69 acres** being made available for reuse. DNR staff assures these cleanups provide **long-term protection of public health and environment**.

**DNR responded to 48 spills of hazardous materials** over the past three years.

DNR provided **\$760,000 in Brownfield Grants** over the past three years to place contaminated properties back into productive commercial or industrial use.

DNR provided **\$154,649 in reimbursements** over the past three years for expenses related to the **investigation and cleanup of petroleum contamination** from product storage systems.

## Deer Management in LaCrosse County

In 2014, LaCrosse County established a County Deer Advisory Council. One council per county, they provide input and recommendations to the DNR on deer management.

In 2013, a total of 3,778 deer were registered in LaCrosse County with 922 harvested during archery deer season and 2,856 harvested during the gun deer season.